



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
OFFICE OF THE VICE CHIEF OF STAFF

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

25 MAY 2004

SUBJECT: Authority to Approve Prohibited Activities in AR 385-63

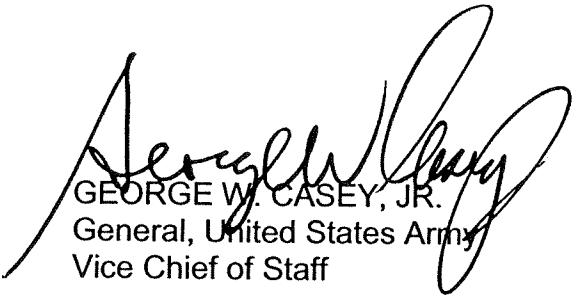
1. Reference:

- a. Paragraph 2-5, AR 385-63, Range Safety, 19 May 03.
- b. Memorandum, Chief of Staff, Army, subject: Approval Authority for Overhead Fire, 27 Oct 03.

2. Effective immediately, I delegate authority to approve range training and operations prohibited by AR 385-63 as shown in the enclosure. This Headquarters is revising AR and DA Pam 385-63 to incorporate this policy. The revision will provide additional guidance on responsibilities and risk mitigating measures.

3. I have reviewed specific range activities prohibited in reference 1a to assess the appropriate level of decision-making to conduct such training or operation. Our objective is to assure safety and adequate risk management balanced with greater flexibility and realism and operational necessity in the conduct of the prohibited training and operations. It is essential that we enable Soldiers to train according to their unit's Mission Essential Task List as much as practicable. Training that includes knowledge and skills to manage risks coupled with disciplined execution will enable our Soldiers to accomplish missions more effectively.

Encl
as


GEORGE W. CASEY, JR.
General, United States Army
Vice Chief of Staff

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Delegation of Authority to Approve Range Activities Prohibited by AR 385-63

1. MACOM commanders and the Director, Army National Guard are delegated the authority to review the adequacy of risk management in the following training activities and approve as appropriate; this authority may be sub-delegated to general officers in command positions and State Adjutant Generals:
 - a. Paragraph 2-5a(2), AR 385-63. Firing ammunition, pyrotechnics, missiles, and/or rockets over ammunition supply points, field ammunition supply points, or any ammunition storage area.
 - b. Paragraph 2-5a(4), AR 385-63. Placing unprotected personnel in specific portions of SDZs as identified in DA Pam 385-63.
2. Paragraph 2-5a(1), AR 385-63. ICM training and demonstrations by Army organizations. Authority to approve Improved Conventional Munitions (ICM) training and demonstrations is delegated to the Director of Training, Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff, G3, in coordination with the Office of the Assistant Chief of Staff for Installation Management (ACSIM) and Director of Army Safety. The use of ICMs affects the Army's short and long-term ability to operate and manage ranges and training lands in a sustainable manner. Therefore, approval authority is not delegated to the MACOMs or Army National Guard.
3. Paragraph 2-5a(3), AR 385-63. Firing depleted uranium ammunition. The Deputy Chief of Staff, G-3, in coordination with the ACSIM and the Director of Army Safety, will review the adequacy of risk management in training that involves depleted uranium (DU) ammunition and approve such training as appropriate. The Army possesses and uses DU under the authority of a license issued by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC). That license limits DU firing in the Continental United States (CONUS) to DU ammunition testing at specific locations. The approving authority must have visibility of all of the implications of firing DU, weigh the costs and benefits from the Army perspective, and be in a position to commit the Army to dealing with the regulatory requirements, environmental remediation, and potential negative publicity.
4. Paragraph 2-5a(5), AR 385-63. Overhead fire above unprotected personnel with ammunition, pyrotechnics, missiles, and or rockets unless specifically authorized by DA Pam 385-63. Reference 1b listed on the front of this memorandum delegates authority to MACOM commanders (3-star and above) or the Director of Army Staff (for MACOMs not commanded by lieutenant general) to approve firing ammunition, pyrotechnics, missiles, and/or rockets from moving aircraft above unprotected Soldiers during training.
5. Paragraph 2-5a(6), AR 385-63. The use of ranges or live-fire training areas that contain unexploded ordnance (UXO) for recreational purposes. This activity continues to be prohibited in accordance with guidelines in paragraph 5-11d of AR 210-21, Army Ranges and Training Land Program.